

# Welcome to Third Grade in Room 33!

Miss Melissa Larrisey

## 1. About me ☺

## 2. Homework

- Incomplete/undone work will be completed the following night
- Send a note if for some serious reason your child was unable to complete homework. (Illness, family emergency, etc. Extracurricular activities is not an excuse)
- Sign PS line in HWCB
- Typically always written Math and Spelling (Mon.-Thurs.)
  - Math: Next SS lesson
  - Spelling: Daily Choice Chart in SB

## 3. Behavior

- Focus on Recognizing and Reinforcing positive behavior and character traits: Respect, Responsibility, Cooperation, Honesty
  - Calendar: Positive and Negative comments. Please read and initial each night.
  - Individual: Star Board- Students who are consistently on task and setting a good example for the rest of the class move their magnet to the Star Board. Students earn prizes for the number of times this occurs.
  - Small Groups: Star Card- Groups that are working cooperatively, consistently on task, etc. will earn stars on their group card. The group with the most stars at the end of the week will receive a prize.
  - Whole Class: Compliment Chain- I will add links to our chain for good behavior and students will receive a treat of some sort when the chain meets the floor.
  - Any punishment is on a case by case basis (loss of recess, removal from an activity, etc.)
  - I believe positive behavior reinforcement plans are more effective than punishment plans.

## 4. Curriculum

- **Religion:** Lessons from We Believe book. General topics covered: Trinity, Sacraments, God's Law, Mary, Liturgical Year, Saints, Feasts, Prayer (Morning Offering and Apostles Creed). Tests after each chapter, approx. every 6 days.
- **Math:** Review of second grade concepts, place value, addition and subtraction of large numbers, multiplication and division facts, introduction to long division, fractions, measurement and graphs. Tests after units.
  - Simple Solutions review practice book (homework); SS quiz every Friday
  - Progress in Mathematics workbook (computation)
  - Math Journal: (problem solving, modeling, communicating mathematically)
- **ELA- English Language Arts** (One report card grade.)
  - **Reading:** Balanced Literacy Framework:
    - Read Aloud (teacher modeling)

- Shared Reading (whole group lesson, students and teacher read together)
- Guided Reading (small reading groups: strategy based, flexible)
- Independent Reading (includes weekly student/teacher conferences)
  - Only about 2 formal reading tests per trimester, other assessments include conferences and observations during guided reading. My focus is on progress. I do not expect all students to be on the same level.
  - Trophies reader will be used as supplemental material, not a core program (no tests on the stories).
- *Language:*
  - Spelling: HM Spelling book; word study & dictionary skills (unit lists in studybook) Tests every other Friday on two units. 20 words per test.
  - Phonics: Pearson Phonics book; Sounds/Letter relations
- *Grammar:*
  - Grammar Workshop book; oral and written language skills/parts of speech, tests after each unit. Skills integrated into writing.
- *Writing:*
  - Writers Workshop: Daily mini-lesson, shared writing, independent writing with conferences. One-two formal “published” and graded writing piece per trimester. Other assessment includes conferences and journal. Focus is on progress!
- **Science:**
  - LabLearner Program
    - Units: Properties of Matter, Exploring Electricity, The Human Body, Our Solar System, The Sun and Your Skin.
    - Science is no longer graded in 3rd grade - but assignments will be incorporated into effort grade and ELA grade.
    - Ask your students about what they did in lab each week!
- **Social Studies:**
  - Our Communities text book and notes in SS copybook
    - Units: Map Skills, Communities, Famous People, Holidays, Government
    - Social Studies is no longer graded in 3rd grade - but assignments will be incorporated into effort grade and ELA grade

## 5. Communication

- Weekly Wrap Up Newsletter - VIP! Very Important Paper! Every Friday!
- Class website: [misslarrisey.wikispaces.com](http://misslarrisey.wikispaces.com)
- Email is best for me: [mlarrisey@stceciliafc.org](mailto:mlarrisey@stceciliafc.org) or [Melissa.larrisey@gmail.com](mailto:Melissa.larrisey@gmail.com)
- Send in a note or call the office and I will get back to you!
- Weekly Progress Folders: (Formally “test folders”)
  - I plan to include more than just tests this year.
  - Sign each paper in the folder, and return everything to school the following day.
  - All papers will be returned to you at the end of the trimester.

## 6. Any Questions?

Thank you!! ☺